MESSENGER
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An Able Man

Dr. Frank J. Welch, assistant secretary of agriculture from February 1961 to July 1962, and a man with numerous friends in Hopkins County, has been elected a vice president of The Tobacco Institute, and will assume his post later this month.

Dr. Welch has a long record of educational and public service, before his appointment as assistant secretary being dean of our University of Kentucky College of Agriculture. Also he was director of the college's agricultural experiment station and agricultural extension division, and his influence was felt throughout Kentucky agriculture.

Announcement of Dr. Welch's election to the Tobacco Institute post came from George V. Allen, president of the institute. Dr. Welch takes over his new post in time to lead an important U.S. delegation of tobacco representatives on an exchange visit to the Soviet Union.

The group will leave for Russia early in August and will visit tobacco growing areas and manufacturing plants. In turn, Russian tobacco representatives will visit the U.S. later this year.

Upon his return from Russia, Dr. Welch's primary responsibilities at the Institute will be with groups and institutions interested in the tobacco economy, which is of high importance to Kentucky and Kentuckians.

Dr. Welch is a good and competent man, as the Institute will find. He is a former director of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and during World War II was a member of the National War Labor Board. He also has served on the National Agricultural Research Policy Advisory Committee and the president's Commission on Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products. Also, Dr. Welch is a former director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

The work of Tobacco Institute, as we have said before, is of high importance to our state's economic well-being. It is comprised of U.S. manufacturers of cigarettes, smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco and snuff—the fellows who buy the tobacco raised in Hopkins County and everywhere else—and its principal purposes are to work for a better understanding of the industry, its problems, and its place in the national economy.

The Institute will find that it has obtained in Dr. Welch the services of a man familiar with all these phases of an industry which is one of the vital ones in our commonwealth.

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